



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Davis, JR. et al.
Appl. No.: 10/038,292
Pub. No.: US 2003/0130912 A1
Filed: January 4, 2002
For: EQUIPMENT MANAGEMENT
SYSTEM

U.S. Cl.: 1771
Int. Cl.: G06F 17/60

January 7, 2004

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA

Dear Sir:

PROTEST UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.291(a)

The undersigned, having reviewed the specification and the claims of the above-identified patent application, and having formed the opinion that the subject matter of said application is not patentable in view of certain prior art references and other information, and as a consequence thereof being further of the opinion that the grant by the United States Patent and Trademark Office of a patent would be contrary to the public interest, does hereby protest the application pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.291(a).

Attached hereto in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.291(a) is proof of service of the protest upon Thompson Coburn, LLP, counsel to applicant of the above-identified patent application.

Submitted herewith in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.291(b) are: (1) a listing on form PTO-1449 of the patents, publications and other information relied upon; (2) a concise explanation of the relevance of each of the listed items; (3) a copy of each listed

patent or publication or other item of information in written form or at least pertinent portions thereof; and (4) an English language translation of all of the necessary and pertinent parts of any non-English language patent, publication or other item of information in written form relied upon.

LISTING OF ALL DOCUMENTS RELIED UPON (37 C.F.R. §1.192(c)(1))

The Protestor provides the following list of documents and publications on which the current protest is based.

Document	Earliest Priority Date	Publication Date	Title	Inventor(s)
WO 01/88884	May 16, 2000	November 22, 2000	Method and Apparatus for Authenticating Unique Items Such as Sports Memorabilia.	McWilliam et al.
US 5963134	July 24, 1997	October 5, 1999	Inventory System Using Articles with RFID Tags.	Bowers et al.

Additional Prior Art that is not relied upon by the Protestor in presenting the protest, but which is also relevant to the lack of novelty in the present invention include the following:

Document	Earliest Priority Date	Publication Date	Title	Inventor(s)
WO 01/72107	March 24, 2000	October 4, 2001	RFID Tag for Authentication and Identification	Kirkham et al.
WO 01/01706	June 39, 1999	January 4, 2001	Event and Sports Performance Method and Systems	Vock et al.
WO 98/55970	June 5, 1997	December 10, 1998	Method for Ascertaining the Authenticity of a Predetermined Product	Imovilli et al.

Wo 01/57807	February 4, 2000	August 9, 2001	Method of Authenticating a Tag	Baldwin et al.
Wo 01/84268	May 4, 2000	November 8, 2001	Collectible Item Authentication and Ownership System and Method of Selling Collectible Items	Lucarelli et al.
US 2001/0041214	April 1, 1999	November 15, 2001	System for Retrospective Identification and Method of Making Articles for Retrospective Identification	Brogger et al.
US 2001/0014955	November 15, 1999	February 7, 2002	Object Detection System	Clitsgaard
US 6226619	October 29, 1998	May 1, 2001	Method and System for Preventing Counterfeiting of High Price Wholesale and Retail Items	Halperin et al.
US 5380047	June 16, 1993	January 10, 1995	Authentication System	Molee et al.
US 5267756	September 30, 1992	December 7, 1993	Authentication System	Molee et al.
US 5306049	September 13, 1993	April 26, 1994	Sports Memorabilia Auction Kit	Schireck
US 5521984	June 10, 1993	May 28, 1996	System for Registration, Identification and Verification of Items Utilizing Unique Intrinsic Features	Deneberg et al.
US 5673338	December 22, 1995	September 30, 1997	System for Verification of Unique Items	Deneberg et al.
US 6076064	March 9, 1998	June 13, 2000	Uniform System for Verifying and Tracking the Title of Articles or Objects of Value	Rose
US 6250549	June 17, 1998	June 26, 2001	Method for Authenticating Signatures and Memorabilia Kit Employing the Same	DeFabio

US 6265977	August 14, 2000	July 24, 2001	Radio Frequency Identification Apparatus and Related Method	Vega et al.
US 6309690	April 1, 1999	October 20, 2001	System for Retrospective Identification and Method of Making Articles for Retrospective Identification	Brogger et al.
US 4686515	April 25, 1985	August 11, 1987	Apparatus and Method for Marker Verification	Anderson et al.
US 4816824	November 30, 1987	March 28, 1989	Merchandise Verification and Information System	Katz et al.
US 5635693	February 2, 1995	June 3, 1997	System and Method for Tracking Vehicles in Vehicle Lots	Benson et al.
US 5825299	April 17, 1996	October 20, 1998	Object Identification System	Fuentes et al.
US 5895073	October 31, 1996	April 20, 1999	Anti-Counterfeiting System	Moore
US 6030001	September 30, 1996	February 29, 2000	Method for Deterring Forgeries and Authenticating Signatures	Kruckemeyer
US 6203069	October 15, 1999	March 20, 2001	Label Having an Invisible Bar Code Applied Thereon	Outwater et al.
US 6266651	February 19, 1999	July 24, 2001	Facilitating Electronic Commerce Through Two-Tiered Electronic Markets and Auctions	Woolston
US 2001/0049606	May 25, 2000	December 6, 2001	Online Collectible Authentication and Ownership System	Lucarelli

THE SUBJECT MATTER OF THE APPLICATION

U.S. Application Serial No.10/038,292 by Davis, J.R., et al., is directed to a method for the management of equipment, and particularly to the management of sports